

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 085445

61

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 H-02 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 DHA-02 PM-04

L-03 PRS-01 /046 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:JDFORBES:JDB

APPROVED BY EA - MR. HABIB

H - SCHWARTSTEIN

----- 120236

P 090048Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 085445

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, MARR, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT: SFRC HEARING ON KOREA

-

1. SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE OF SENATE
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HELD OPEN HEARING ON KOREA
APRIL 8. HEARING WAS CHAIRED BY SENATOR MCGOVERN
AND ATTENDED BY SENATORS CASE AND CRANSTON. CONGRESS-
MAN FRASER, ASST SECY HABIB AND DEP ASST SECY ABRAMO-
WITZ TESTIFIED. HABIB AND ABRAMOWITZ STATEMENTS SENT
SEPTELS TO SEOUL ONLY. FRASER STATEMENT POUCHED.

2. FRASER REVIEWED KOREAN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN
SOME DETAIL. HE CHARGED THAT ADMINISTRATION HAS
DONE LITTLE ABOUT INCREASINGLY REPRESSIVE NATURE
OF PARK REGIME, LIMITING ITSELF LARGELY TO PRIVATE
DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS COUCHED IN TERMS OF ADVERSE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 085445

US PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL REACTIONS. HE COULD SEE

LITTLE EFFECT BETWEEN HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION AND LEVELS OF MAP REQUESTED FOR KOREA. FRASER RECOMMENDED MORE FORCEFUL REPRESENTATIONS TO ROKG AND CALLED ON PRESIDENT TO DENOUNCE RECENT ARRESTS IN KOREA.

3. NOTING HE BELIEVES THERE NO LONGER IS MILITARY NEED FOR US FORCES IN KOREA, FRASER SAID CONTINUED

TROOP PRESENCE PRESENTS SERIOUS RISKS FOR US SECURITY IN EVENT OF NORTH KOREAN ATTACK. HE RECOMMENDED THAT TROOPS SHOULD BE GRADUALLY WITHDRAWN SO THAT COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL WOULD BE AFFECTED WITHIN NEXT SEVERAL YEARS BY WHICH TIME ROK WOULD BE ABLE TO DEFEND ITSELF. IF NORTH KOREA UPSET MILITARY BALANCE, HE SAID WITHDRAWAL PLAN COULD BE ALTERED. ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE, FOR FY 77 FRASER RECOMMENDED ENDING GRANT ASSISTANCE AND LIMITING FMS CREDITS TO LEVEL OF TOTAL MAP FOR FY 76 AND THEREAFTER REDUCE OR ELIMINATE FMS CREDITS UNLESS HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IMPROVES.

4. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, FRASER EXPRESSED QUALIFIED CONCERN ROKG MIGHT PRECIPITATE WAR WITH NORTH KOREA FOR DOMESTIC REASONS, SUGGESTED SECURITY OF KOREA NOT OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO JAPAN AND THAT KOREA IS NOT IMPORTANT TO US SECURITY. HE RECOGNIZED THAT STATE DEPARTMENT HAS OFTEN EXPRESSED CONCERN TO ROKG OFFICIALS OVER HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION BUT SAW NO STRONG SIGNALS OF ADMINISTRATION DISAPPROVAL.

5. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, HABIB QUOTED 1975 STATEMENTS BY PRIM MIN MIKI AND FONMIN MIYAZAWA ON IMPORTANCE OF US TROOP PRESENCE IN ROK AND ARGUED AGAINST FRASER CLAIM THAT KOREA NOT IMPORTANT TO US SECURITY OR THAT ROK MIGHT ATTACK NORTH KOREA. ON ROK FIP, HABIB EMPHASIZED THAT USG HAS MADE NO COMMITMENT WHATSOEVER TO FIP OR FUTURE MAP LEVELS FOR ROK BUT HOPES TO GAIN SUFFICIENT CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT TO PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT LEVELS OF FMS CREDITS FOR KOREA.

6. ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION, HABIB DECLINED TO GO IN-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 085445

TO DETAILS OF DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS IN OPEN SESSION BUT SAID ROKG CLEARLY UNDERSTANDS USG VIEWS AS RESULT OUR EFFORTS AS WELL AS THOSE OF CONGRESS AND VARIOUS US INTEREST GROUPS. MORE GENERALLY, HABIB NOTED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD BE AND IS AN IMPORTANT POLICY CONSIDERATION IN TERMS OF OUR BROADER POLICY STANCE IN KOREA AND ELSEWHERE.

7. ABRAMOWITZ FIELDDED QUESTIONS MAINLY IN MILITARY AREA.

8. IN CONCLUDING STATEMENT SENATOR CRANSTON ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO INTRODUCE AMENDMENT ON WITHDRAWAL OF US FORCES TO MILITARY ASSISTANCE LEGISLATION CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION IN CONGRESS. IN VIEW PLANNED COMPLETION OF MODERNIZATION PLAN IN 1977 AND FORCE IMPROV-

MENT PLAN IN 1980 WITH RESULT ROK WILL BE ABLE TO DEFEND ITSELF, AMENDMENT WOULD STATE IT POLICY OF CONGRESS THAT NO FUNDS CAN BE USED TO SUPPORT US TROOPS IN KOREA AFTER JANUARY 1, 1981. AMENDMENT WOULD REQUIRE PRESIDENTIAL REPORT ON PLANS TO WITHDRAW FORCES AND ASSIST MODERNIZATION OF ROK ARMED FORCES WITHIN SIX MONTHS AFTER LAW ENACTED AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER. SISCO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS, TROOP REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE085445
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JDFORBES:JDB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760134-0106
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760477/aaaacnvc.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <21 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SFRC HEARING ON KOREA -
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, MARR, KS, KN, US
To: SEOUL TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006